LETTER
TO PARLIAMENTS AND GOVERNMENTS OF ALL COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD

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TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

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The Second Session of the Fifth Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has discussed the question of terminating the intervention of foreign countries in our internal affairs for the purpose of expediting independent and peaceful national reunification and sends this letter to the parliaments and governments of all countries of the world.

Rejecting foreign intervention in our domestic affairs and achieving independent and peaceful reunification constitutes a fundamental question affecting the prosperity of our fatherland and the future destiny of our nation. It is also a very important question having direct bearing on peace in Asia and in the world.

Proceeding from the lofty desire to shape the destiny of our nation by ourselves and contribute to the cause of world peace, we have since long time ago advanced various reasonable proposals on the peaceful reunification of the country by the efforts of the Koreans themselves without outside intervention and bent all sincere efforts to carry them out.

The struggle of the Korean people for peaceful reunification took an epochal turn particularly after Comrade Kim Il Sung, President of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, declared in his historic speech on August 6, 1971 that we had a readiness to discuss at any time the question of national reunification with the present ruling party and all the other political parties, all social organisations and individual personages in south Korea. At the time the general international situation was rapidly changing further in favour of the people's cause of peace, democracy, national independence and social progress and the voices demanding peaceful reunification were rising higher than ever before among the south Korean people.

Our policy of peaceful reunification won the unanimous support not only of the Korean people but also of the broad world public circles. The south Korean authorities who had been dead set against any contacts between the north and the south also accepted our proposal, with the result that talks between the north and south Korean Red Cross societies opened in September 1971 and the north-south high-level talks are in progress from last year.

In the course of this, the two sides published the north-south joint statement whose keynote is the three principles—independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity, reached an agreement as to working with united efforts in all fields and formed the North-South Co-ordination

Commission, a joint national body. This has opened a bright prospect before our nation's efforts at peaceful reunification.

All the peace-loving people of the world warmly welcomed and supported the realization of these contacts and dialogue between north and south Korea which had remained separated for 27 years. They regarded it as a great event conforming to the trend of the times and the interest of peace.

We advanced a number of practical questions for the implementation of the agreed points specified in the north-south joint statement. This came from our desire not to fall short of the wishes of the entire Korean people and the expectations of the world people but to make the dialogue between the north and the south a dialogue for reunification and a dialogue for unity.

Our side proposed to the south Korean side to take concrete steps for many-sided collaboration between the north and the south in all spheres such as politics, economy, culture, military affairs and diplomacy in conformity with the spirit of the north-south joint statement.

In particular, we made a five-point proposal that both sides stop armament reinforcement and arms race, make all foreign troops withdraw from south Korea, scale down their armies to 100,000 men or less each, discontinue the introduction of weapons and war supplies from abroad, and conclude a peace agreement between the north and the south, considering that the relaxation of the existing tension and the removal of military confrontation in our country are a prerequisite to the removal of the long-standing misunderstanding and mistrust between the north and the south, the creation of a climate of trust and the guarantee of peace in Korea and her peaceful reunification.

All these proposals of our side embody the consistent policy of national reunification of the Government of the D.P.R.K. to suit the new historic condition where the north-south dialogue is going on. They are the most just proposals for solving the question of reunification in full accord with the will of our nation and the interest of peace and the most fair and reasonable proposals acceptable to anyone who wants reunification.

But, none of these proposals has yet been realized because the United States is still occupying south Korea, wields its controlling position to egg the south Korean authorities on to make a military showdown and hinders the progress of the dialogue.

The United States threw cold water on the north-south dialogue from the outset in an attempt to carry out its aggressive design in Korea by making Koreans fight each other in accordance with the "Nixon doctrine," perpetuate the division of our country through the creation of "two Koreas" and keep south Korea as its colony and military base.

The U.S. Government authorities have openly stated that, although the dialogue is in progress between north and south Korea, they "have no plan to withdraw the U.S. forces." Moreover, they declared that they should

help the south Korean side so that it could hold a "stronger position" in the dialogue. They gave repeated assurances that they would fulfil the "ROK-U.S. defense commitments" and go ahead with the "program for modernization of the ROK army" and are supplying south Korea with various new-type weapons and military equipment and instigating the south Korean authorities to step up war preparations.

In recent days, the U.S. forces stationed in south Korea have staged large-scale provocative military exercises designed for offensive, not for defensive, jointly with the south Korean army and incessantly perpetrated military reconnaissance activities, thereby straining the situation.

This shows that the real danger of war in Korea comes not from the threat of "southward invasion" as alleged by the United States and the south Korean authorities, but from the threat of their northward invasion.

Keeping pace with such obstructive manoeuvre of the United States, the south Korean authorities say good words when they sit face to face with us for talks, but, after going back, they break their words and reject our realistic proposals for materializing the points of mutual agreement under the plea of "premature."

Employing the delaying tactics, they use the dialogue merely as a means of preparing for a war and reinforcing their ruling system. They cry for confrontation and competition advocated by the U.S. authorities, instead of unity and collaboration between the north and the south which we are demanding. They seek war and split, not peace and peaceful reunification.

The United States is trying to justify with the "U.N. resolutions" its acts of keeping its army stationed in south Korea, of pursuing a neo-colonial enslavement policy there and of obstructing the peaceful reunification of Korea.

Some time ago, the United States made the "United Nations Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea" shield as "fair democratic elections" the socalled "election of deputies to the national conference for unification" and "national assembly election" which were held in south Korea by threat of the bayonet and through swindle and fraud under the "extraordinary martial law" proclaimed in addition to the "emergency state."

Besides, the United States is drawing the Japanese reactionary forces into the execution of its aggressive policy toward Korea.

All the facts show that unless the intervention of the United States in the internal affairs of our country is brought to an end, it is impossible to further advance the dialogue between north and south Korea and achieve the independent, peaceful reunification of the country.

In this connection, the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea calls upon the parliaments and governments of all countries of the world to pay deep attention to the present developments in Korea and render an active help to removing the obstacles to the independent, peaceful reunification of Korea.

For the termination of the intervention of the foreign countries in the internal affairs of our country, first of all the U.S. forces must get out of south Korea and the "United Nations Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea" be dissolved.

Today the U.S. forces have no pretext whatsoever to stay on in south Korea any longer.

The U.S. forces' occupation of south Korea itself was illegal. Their stay in south Korea up to now also totally contravenes the Korean Armistice Agreement which envisages the withdrawal of all the foreign troops. At present there are no foreign troops in the northern half of the Republic.

The United States claims that the continued presence of its forces in south Korea is for "protection" of south Korea from "southward invasion." But this "protection" is only a pretext for covering up its intervention in the internal affairs of our country and its aggressive acts against us.

Such pretext can never work especially after the Government of the D.P.R.K. stated more than once that it has no intention to "invade the south" and the two sides solemnly declared to the people at home and abroad through the north-south joint statement that they would not fight each other.

If the United States truly hopes for peaceful solution of the Korean question, is there any reason why it should deliberately maintain the state of confrontation with us in spite of our consistent call for the peaceful reunification of the country? The United States must withdraw its troops from south Korea and stop such acts as shipping weapons and combat equipment into south Korea, expanding military bases and staging military exercises there.

We are ready to reduce the strength of our army to 200,000 or less for ourselves, if only the U.S. troops pull out of south Korea.

The United States is trying to justify its intervention in the internal affairs of our country on the strength of the "U.N. resolutions." In the light of this, to remove the obstacles to the independent, peaceful reunification of Korea, it is also necessary for the United Nations to pay due attention to this and adopt a just policy on the Korean question.

We hold that this year the U.N. General Assembly should take steps to take the cap of the "U.N. forces" off the heads of the U.S. troops stationed in south Korea, make them withdraw and disband the "United Nations Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea" and that the representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea must certainly be invited to the United Nations when a question on Korea is discussed there.

Availing ourselves of this opportunity, we express the hope that the nations participating in the "United Nations Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea," too, will contribute to removing the obstacles to the independent, peaceful reunification of Korea by withdrawing from this "commission" following the just and determined action of Chile and

Pakistan or ignoring its operation, so the "commission" may be dissolved of itself, or by having it dissolved by a U.N. resolution.

We take it as our consistent policy to develop relations with all countries of the world which are friendly to our country, and consider it necessary for all the countries, whether participants in the Korean war or not, to pay due attention to the just solution of the Korean question.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea will in the future, too, set store by the already started north-south dialogue and do everything in its power to ensure its smooth progress and to accelerate the independent, peaceful reunification of the fatherland.

We maintain that the five-point proposal we made as an immediate step toward easing tension in our country and removing the state of military confrontation between the north and the south should be realized at the earliest possible date. It calls for stopping armament reinforcement and arms race, making all foreign troops withdraw, reducing army strength and armaments, discontinuing the introduction of weapons from foreign countries and concluding a peace agreement.

We also hold that many-sided collaboration between the north and the south should be realized without delay in all spheres such as politics, military affairs, economy, culture and diplomacy for the purpose of rejoining the severed national ties between the north and the south, assuring a unified development of the country, stabilizing and improving the people's livelihood and promoting the cause of national reunification.

Furthermore, we consider that dialogue and negotiations should be conducted extensively on a democratic basis with the participation of political parties, public organizations and personages of all circles of the north and the south by concerted efforts to achieve the independent, peaceful reunification of the fatherland and that the cause of the country's peaceful reunification should be won by the united strength of the whole nation.

We hope that the parliaments and governments of all countries of the world will turn to account all opportunities and possibilities and employ various forms and ways to extend their active support to our programme of national reunification and express firmer solidarity with the sacred struggle of the Korean people for its materialization.

If the U.S. troops are withdrawn from south Korea and the intervention of outside forces in the internal affairs of our country is brought to an end by the joint struggle of the Korean people and the world people, the danger of war will be dispelled in Korea and the dialogue accelerated, the north-south relations radically improved and the question of the country's reunification smoothly solved in a peaceful way on the principle of national self-determination.

We take this opportunity to express our heartfelt thanks to the parliaments, governments and peoples of all the peace-loving countries of the

world that extend sympathy and support to the struggle of the Korean people for independent, peaceful reunification.

The Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea expresses the conviction that your Parliament and Government will pay deep attention to this letter and take appropriate positive measures.

Supreme People's Assembly
Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Pyongyang

April 6, 1973

LETTER TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

The Second Session of the Fifth Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has discussed the question of terminating foreign intervention in our internal affairs with the aim of accelerating the independent, peaceful reunification of our country and sends this letter to both the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States.

As a result of the consistent efforts made by the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for the independent, peaceful national reunification, a dialogue started between north and south Korea in September 1971.

Later, both sides held high-level talks, announced a joint statement whose keynote is the three principles—independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity—and formed a North-South Co-ordination Commission as a joint setup to implement the agreed principles.

This was an epoch-making event that altered the state of freeze between the north and the south separated from each other for many years and opened up a new phase for peaceful reunification.

After the announcement of the north-south joint statement we proposed, as a concrete step toward the implementation of the agreements between both sides, to realize collaboration between the north and the south in all fields of politics, economy, culture, military and diplomatic affairs and, in particular, made a five-point proposal for eliminating the present state of military confrontation, that is, the stopping of armament reinforcement and arms race, the withdrawal of foreign troops, the reduction of army strength, the discontinuance of the introduction of weapons from foreign countries and the conclusion of a peace agreement—the most urgent problems in dispelling misunderstanding and distrust and creating an atmosphere of trust between both sides.

However, the south Korean authorities have not made a due response to our peaceable initiative which accords with the desire of all the Korean people, and the dialogue between the north and the south has made no further progress at the stage in which the agreements between both sides should be put into practice.

Facts show that this state of affairs is mainly due to the policies of the U.S. Government authorities who do not want to see Korea reunified peacefully by the Korean people themselves.

The U.S. Government authorities welcomed the north-south dialogue in words, but in deeds they have obstructed it from the outset, throwing cold water on it. They have instigated the south Korean authorities to take the "position of strength" in negotiation with us, declaring that, although

the north-south dialogue is in progress, they would keep their troops in south Korea and "push ahead the modernization programme" for the south Korean army.

Last year, for instance, the United States gave the greatest amount of military "aid" to south Korea, supplied it with large quantities of modern weapons and military equipment, expanded military bases, made incessant military provocations and staged ceaseless military exercises. In this way it stepped up war preparations and further encouraged the south Korean authorities to military confrontation with us.

This position and attitude of the U.S. Government toward Korea go against the desire of all the Korean people to reunify their country peacefully and run counter to the current trend to the relaxation of tension and peace.

At a time when north and south Korea hold dialogue and the Koreans endeavour to solve their problems peacefully for themselves, why are the U.S. Government authorities intervening in and obstructing it?

If the United States should truly hope for the peaceful solution of the Korean question and desire peace in the Far East and the Pacific region, it would have no need to keep its troops in south Korea any longer and deliberately maintain military confrontation with us who advocate peaceful reunification.

We consider that it is high time for the United States to change its policy in the light of the present changed situation, withdraw its troops from south Korea and take a measure to dissolve the "United Nations Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea," thereby removing the obstacles to the peaceful reunification of Korea.

The United States should discontinue military "aid" and the supply of weapons and military equipment to south Korea, stop armaments expansion and war exercises in south Korea and desist from encouraging the south Korean authorities with military support for the purpose of making Koreans fight Koreans.

If the U.S. Government authorities take such steps, war danger will be removed in Korea and the Korean people will certainly achieve the peaceful reunification of their country by themselves.

Considering that this will conform with the interests of the peoples of both Korea and the United States and fully accord with the interests of peace, the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea expresses the hope that the U.S. Congress will pay serious attention to our letter and adopt relevant positive measures.

Supreme People's Assembly
Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Pyongyang
April 6, 1973